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Brief History of the University

1. The University of Vilnius was founded in 1578 by Bishop Protasevicius during the period of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. With the authorization of King Stephanus Batory and the sanction of Pope Gregory XIII by Papal Bull in 1579, the University was authorized to confer academic degrees, Baccalaureus, Magister, Licenciate, Doctor.
2. In the space of a hundred years [1578-1678], the University of Vilnius became an international center of learning with students and professors coming from Lithuania, Byelorussia, Latvia, Ukraine, Poland, Estonia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, France, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Flanders, Scotland and England.
3. The Swedish and Russian invasions of the latter half of the 17th century and the early 18th century interrupted the University's life, isolating it from the outside world and greatly restricting its academic activities. This period, nevertheless, produced such scholars as the Jesuit Skarga; Neo-Latin Poet Scarbievius; Lithuanian Historian Vijukas-Kojelavicius; Lexicographer Sirvydas, Jurist Olizarovius, Astronomer-Architect Zebrys-Zebrauskas and others.
4. With the dissolution of the Jesuit Order by Pope Clement XIV in 1773, the University of Vilnius became Schola Princeps Magni Ducatus Lithuaniae Sive Vilmensis. In 1773 there were two faculties, Medicine and Theology, later four faculties, Ethics-Jurisprudence; Physics; Medicine; Linguistics and Art. In the 19th century there was added a theological seminary. For several decades during the 18th century, the University was administered by the well-known Astronomer Rector Pocobutas, who was also head of the Lithuanian educational system, the University being its seat.
5. From 1803, the name of the University was Imperatoria Universitas Vilmensis. The University played a significant role in the cultural and political life of both Lithuania and Poland. It was at the University of Vilnius, that the Lithuanian national renaissance was born. For these national aspirations, Nicholas I of Russia closed the University, and it was only in 1918 that its doors were again opened, after protests from US Lithuanians and the Lithuania people themselves.

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6. During the occupation of Vilnius by the Poles (1918-1939), the University was renamed Stefan Batory, and continued to function under that name until the onset of World War II. The Lithuanians then formed the University of Kaunas (under the Statute of Vilnius University) within Lithuania proper. At the end of the Polish occupation (1939), the University of Vilnius was again returned to the jurisdiction of the Lithuanian Republic. Mykolas Birziska was elected the new president (Rector Magnificus) in 1940. With the Russian advance in June 1940 and the resulting occupation, and again in 1941 during the German occupation, the University of Vilnius became headquarters of the opposition, which pledged loyalty to Lithuania and resistance to the ~~German~~ invaders. At this time 1941 the University had six faculties:

<u>Faculties</u>	<u>Departments</u>
(a) Humanities	Philology History Philosophy
(b) Mathematics and Natural Sciences	Mathematics Physics Chemistry Biology Geology-Geography
(c) Jurisprudence	
(d) Economics	
(e) Medicine	Medicine Pharmacology Dentistry
(f) Forestry	

The University numbered a faculty of about 500 professors of all categories, besides a staff of employees. Its libraries contained over 500 thousand volumes of books and manuscripts.

7. The second Russian occupation (1944) resulted in a catastrophe that not only drove the Lithuanians from their native land, but also destroyed their culture and education. The bulk of the faculty of both universities, Kaunas and Vilnius, and other academic institutions of the country, with their thousands of students, fled to the West and today are scattered in twenty countries.
8. After 1945 under Russian regime, the University of Vilnius was reorganized into seven faculties as follows:
- (a) Marxism-Leninism
 - (b) Jurisprudence
 - (c) Economics
 - (d) History-Philology
 - (e) Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry
 - (f) Medicine
 - (g) Natural Sciences
9. After the first Russian occupation (1941), the faculties were carefully screened for their political orientation towards Communism. Many of the professors remained in Lithuania and are still affiliated with the University. Some of them were dismissed and some were exiled to Siberia.
10. The following list of faculty members of the University of Vilnius consists of those who remained after the second Russian occupation in 1944. The list is based on the faculty University organization from 1941-44. The first title following the name indicates the academic rank in 1942-44. The rank indicated under the heading PRESENT TITLE is academic rank during the second Russian occupation (1944) and-- insofar as I can determine--present rank.

11. Rector of the University: Bucas, Jonas (see Faculty of Economics)
 Vice-Rector of the University: Jankauskas, Steponas (see Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences)

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE (1942-44)</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE AGE</u>	<u>PRESENT TITLE</u>
Banevicius, Mykolas	Lecturer in Russian	60	Prof of Russian
<u>Comment:</u> of Russian origin			
Bobianskiene, Lidijsa	Lecturer in French	60	Prof of History
Dumcius, Jonas	Adjunct of Greek Philology	48	Prof of Classics
<u>Comment:</u> Was interested only in Classics			
Dundulis, Bronius, Dr	Assistant in History of Europe	48	Prof of General History
Galaune, Paulius	Asst Prof of History of Art	62	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> Director of the Art Museum in Kaunas. Has published several books in the field of the Lithuanian Art History. His wife was an opera singer.			
Gucas, Alfonsas	Assistant in Pedagogics	50	Prof and Director of the Institute of Pedagogics in Vilnius
Jonynas, Ignas	Assoc Prof of History of Lithuania	68	Prof of Russian History
<u>Comment:</u> Former Counselor of Lithuanian Foreign Ministry. Has published several studies in the field of Lithuanian History.			
Karsavinas, Leonas, Dr	Prof of General History	71	Seems to be teaching in the Academy of Art at Vilnius
<u>Comment:</u> A Russian, born 1882 in St Petersburg (Leningrad). After the Bolshevik revolution (1918) emigrated to France. About 1925 came to University of Kaunas; since 1940 at University of Vilnius. He has published many books in Russian. In Lithuanian he has published seven volumes on "History of the Culture of Europe". After 1944, he was dismissed from the University.			
Kruopas, Jonas	Lecturer in Lithuanian language	46	Unknown
Mikenaite, Akvile	Assistant in History of Art	45	Unknown
Mykolaitis, Vincas, Dr	Assoc Prof of History of Lithuanian Literature	59	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> Well known Lithuanian author. He has published, under the name Putinas, many books: poetry, drama and novel. Before the Russian Revolution he studied in the Catholic Seminary. During World War I studied at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). PhD received in Fribourg about 1923. No socialistic or communistic ideas were observed in his writings. One of the most popular and beloved authors in the country. Among other books published by him: Valdovo Sunus (The Son of the Ruler); Moteris Ir Ziedas (Woman and the Blossom); Altoriu Seselyje (In the Shadows of the Altars); Kunigaikstis Zvainys (The Duke Zvainys); Modern Lithuanian Literature.			

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES (Con't)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE (1942-44)</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE AGE</u>	<u>PRESENT TITLE</u>
Minginas, Jonas	Assistant in Pedagogics	46	Unknown
Miskinis, Motiejus	Assistant in Slavic Languages and Literature	47	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> Specialized in Russian Literature.			
Pereckas, Jonas	Assistant in Pedagogics	46	Unknown
Rocka, Marcelinas	Lecturer in Classical Philology	48	Prof of Lithuanian Literature
Sezemanas, Vosylius	Prof of Philosophy	70	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> He was dismissed from the staff after 1944.			
Volkaite, Regina	Assistant in Archaeology	45	Unknown
Vorobjovas, Mikalojus	Assistant in History of Art	50	Unknown
Balcikonis, Juozas	Editor of the Dictionary of the Lithuanian Language, published by Academy of Sciences of Lithuania. (Volume I published 1942, Volume II published about 1946)	68	Editor of the Dictionary of the Lithuanian Language and Prof of Lithuanian language at the University of Vilnius
<u>Comment:</u> Born in district of Panevezys (Lith). He is a well known Lithuanian philologist and translator. Since 1926 he has been working on the Dictionary of the Lithuanian Language (Thesaurus Linguae Lituanicae - about 20 volumes planned, approximately 20 thousand pages). A man of no socialistic, not to mention communistic inclination, he never has admired the Russian way of life or Russian culture. All his translations, particularly in the field of Fairy Tales, are selected from Western authors.			

12.

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

Acus-Acukas, Jonas	Asst Prof of Economics	58	Prof of Economics (Marketing)
<u>Comment:</u> He was a colonel in the Lithuanian Army.			
Bucas, Jonas, Dr	Asst Prof of Economics	50	Rector of the University of Vilnius and Prof of Peoples Business Economy
<u>Comment:</u> He has a Jewish wife. Probably for that reason he remained in the country.			
Budrys, Dzidas, Dr	Asst Prof of Economics	50	Prof of Political Economy
Luksa, Kazimieras	Assistant in Economics	47	Prof of Peoples Business Economy

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13.

FACULTY OF JURISPRUDENCE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE (1942-44)</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE AGE</u>	<u>PRESENT TITLE</u>
Jablonskis, Konstantinas, Dr.	Assoc Prof of History of Law	60	Prof of History of State and Law

Comment: He has published several books and many articles in Lithuanian History, Literature and Culture.

Kauza, Vincas	Physician, Adjunct in Court /Forensic/ Medicine	55	Unknown
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FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

14. Bieliukas, Kazys, Dr	Asst Prof of Geography	50	Prof of Physical Geography
Brazdziunas, Povilas, Dr.	Assoc. Prof of Experimental Physics	50	Prof of Experimental Physics

Comment: Former officer in Lithuanian Army. He had two brothers, also officers in the Lithuanian Army.

Dagys, Jonas, Dr	Asst Prof of Plant Anatomy and Physiology	50	Unknown
Dalinkevicius, Juozas, Dr.	Assoc Prof of Geology	55	Prof of Geology
Dauksas, Kazys, Dr	Asst Prof of Chemistry	52	Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Prof of Inorganic Chemistry
Horodnicious, Henrikas	Assistant in Experimental Physics	48	Prof of General Physics and Dean of the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics
Ivanauskas, Tadas, Dr	Prof of Zoology	70	Prof of Vertebrate Zoology

Comment: A family of split nationality. He considered himself as Lithuanian; his brother considered himself as White Russian and the third brother considered himself to be of Polish nationality. They were born in the southeastern part of the district of Vilnius.

Jankauskas, Steponas, Dr	Asst Prof of Comparative Anatomy and Embryology	52	Prof of Zoology and Vice-Rector of the University of Vilnius
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Comment: In 1946 he published in the Lithuanian Communist press an appeal to Lithuanian professors in exile in Germany urging them to return to Lithuania SSR. The answer to his appeal in the Lithuanian exile press was given by Prof Mykolas Birziska, ex-Rector of the University of Vilnius.

Jucys, Adolfas, Dr	Asst Prof of Physics	48	Prof of Theoretical Physics
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Comment: Specialized in Atomic Physics

Kaikarys, Vytautas Marcijonas	Assistant in Physical Chemistry	47	Prof of General Chemistry
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FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES (Con't)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE (1942-44)</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE AGE</u>	<u>PRESENT TITLE</u>
Katilius, Petras, Dr	Assoc Prof of Geometry	50	Prof of Geometry
Kaveckis, Mykolas Stasys, Dr	Assoc Prof of Mineralogy and Crystallography	55	Prof of Mineralogy
Kudaba, Jeronimas	Assistant in Technical Chemistry	46	Prof of Technology of Organic and Inorganic Chemistry
Matulis, Juozas, Dr	Prof of Chemistry	52	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> Studied at the University of Kaunas. After graduation he was sent to Germany. In Leipzig (1930-34) he was a student of the famous German atomic physicist, De Bay. There he received his Doctor's degree. He has published several books in the field of chemistry and physical chemistry. After the second Russian occupation (1944), Matulis was appointed President of Academy of Sciences of Lithuania. As president of the Academy of Sciences, he is often mentioned in the Communist press of the country, is active in Communist conventions. In 1951 he was mentioned as a member of the Communist Party, USSR. Before 1940 he was not linked with the leftist or Communist Party groups. He was born in a traditional Lithuanian farming family. He is married to the daughter of one of the founders of the Lithuanian Drug Co, "Germapo", a Mrs (fnu) Malela. At present time he seems not to be teaching at the University of Vilnius.			
Minkevicius, Antanas Dr	Assoc Prof of Biology and Systematic Botany	52	Prof of Systematics of the lower plants
Pavilonis, Silezijus Benignas	Physician; Assistant in Anatomy	48	Prof of Anatomy and Embryology
Puodziukynas, Antanas, Dr	Assoc Prof of Physics	52	Unknown
Slezevicius, Kazys	Prof of Geophysics and Meteorology	63	Prof of Meteorology and Climatology
<u>Comment:</u> He has published several scientific books in the field of meteorology.			
Snarskis, Povilas, Dr	Asst Prof of Systematics of Plants	50	Prof of Darwinism and Genetics
Stanaitis, Otnas, Dr	Asst Prof of Mathematics	52	Unknown
Salcius, Petras, Dr	Prof of Economics	60	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> He has published several books and many articles in the field of economics, especially cooperatives.			
Salkauskis, Kazimieras	Assoc Prof of Civil Law and Civil Process	70	Unknown
Sivickis, Franciskus, Dr	Prof of Zoology	69	Unknown
<u>Comment:</u> He has published several books in the field of Zoology and Embryology			
Sopauskas, Jonas, Dr	Assoc Prof of Physiology and Physiological Chemistry	52	Prof of Physiology
Sopauskiene, Albina	Assistant in Anatomy and Physiology of Plants	50	Unknown

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FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES (Con't)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE (1942-44)</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE AGE</u>	<u>PRESENT TITLE</u>
Zubrys, Alfonsas, Dr	Assoc Prof of Organic Chemistry	52	Unknown
Zemaitis, Zigmas	Prof of Mathematics	69	Prof of the Analysis of Mathematics
Zilinskas, Gerardas, Dr	Assistant in Mathematics	50	Prof of General Mathematics

15.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Cepulis, S	Adjunct in Surgical Medicine	50	Unknown
Markulis, Juozas	Assistant in Human Anatomy	49	Unknown
Pakonaitis, Pranas	Physician; Orderer of the Clinics	52	Prof of Otolaryngology and ophthalmology
Siaulys, Benediktas	Assoc Prof of Pharmacology	55	Unknown

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